

*Ent. Soc. Lond. (A)*, 13, p. 71, 1938; and Cott, *Adaptive Coloration in Animals*, London, 1940, pp. 221, etc.).

ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,  
BENARES CANTT.

H. L. HITESHI

[The stag rearing on its hind legs was simply trying to increase the range of its vision. It is something which many species of mammals do: particularly the short limbed forms such as Mongooses, Civets, Weasels, Martens and Bears. When suspicious a bear will stand up on its hind legs and look gropingly around. Such rearing up is not necessarily the prelude to attack—that would depend upon the point of attack and its height from ground level. Horses and their kin the wild asses rear up on the hind legs in combat and strike with their fore limbs. It is a habit seen also in deer, particularly when their horns are in 'velvet'. Stags compelled to fight in this condition, rear up and strike with their fore-feet after the manner of hinds. Where vision is concerned, rearing up on the hind legs cannot be described as a usual 'Watching attitude' of deer. It is one which may be resorted to under special circumstances in forest or bush land when the radius of vision is limited.—EDS.]

#### 10.—STRANDING OF WHALES ON THE COASTS OF INDIA

I am collecting data on whales in Indian waters. May I request your help, as also that of your readers, in supplementing the records I have been able to collect in the attached list?

Date	Locality	Length	Other details
1748	... Pondichery ...	30 ft.	{ Referred to in Ananda Ranga Pillay's famous Diary.
1757	... Pondichery ...	160 ft. (?)	
1842 Sep.	... near Chittagong ...	...	Rorqual.
1848 ?	... Quilon ...	100 ft.	Rorqual.
1851	... Amherst island (Arakan).	84 ft.	Rorqual (Jaws, etc., in Indian Museum.
1852 July	... Salt Lakes near Calcutta.	...	A shoal of many dozens of the Indian Pilot Whale <i>Globicephalus indicus</i> .
1858	... Quilon ...	90 ft.	Rorqual.
1864	... Masulipatam...	...	...
1866 ?	... Vizagapatam ...	7 ft.	<i>Cogia breviceps</i> .
1871 June	... Sittoung estuary ...	...	<i>Balaenoptera edeni</i> .
1873 July	... Off Baluchistan coast ...	...	Megaptera.
1874	... Mangalore ...	48 ft.	Baleen whale (bones in Madras Museum),
1879	... Dwarka ...	50 ft.	...
1883 Feb.	... Varvala (Okhamandal)...	12 ft.	...
1884 ?	... Bombay ...	...	Killed by 'Euphrates'.
1884 ?	... Karachi ...	...	Killed by 'Dalhousie'.
1890 Jan.	... Madras ...	24 ft.	<i>Physeler macrocephalus</i> .
1890 Dec.	... Pamban ...	...	Killed by 'Abdur Rahman'.

Date	Locality	Length	Other details
1891	... Mangalore ...	60 ft.	Skeleton in Madras Museum.
1901	... near Cape Comorin ...	73 ft.	Bones with B.N.H.S.
1902 Feb.	... Trivandrum ...	...	<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i> .
1906	... Bassein ...	63 ft.	...
1907	... Rajakamangalam ...	...	Skeleton in Trivandram Museum.
1911	... near Ratnagiri ...	71 ft.	...
1912	... Ratnagiri ...	61 ft.	...
1919	... Tithor (Mahisagar, Baroda) ...	71 ft.	...
1923 Jan.	... Madai (Malabar) ...	...	Rorqual.
1924 ?	... Pudiangadi (Calicut) ...	...	...
1924 Oct.	... Gullalamedu lighthouse, Divi., Kistna Dt. ...	...	...
1924 Dec.	... Karwar ...	48 ft.	...
1925 July	... Westhill, Calicut ...	38 ft.	Rorqual.
1926	... Baliapatam, Cannanore...	48 ft.	Skeleton at St. Aloysius College, Mangalore.
1927	... Chala, Tellicherry ...	22 ft.	...
1927 Nov.	... near Cherai, Cochin ...	94 ft.	...
1928 ?	... Gogha (Kathiawar) ...	30 ft.	...
1931	... Shika (Jamnagar) ...	73 ft.	...
1932	... Nirodumunai (Ceylon) ...	35 ft.	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i> .
1932 May	... Trincomali (Ceylon) ...	40 ft.	Bore gunshot wounds.
1934	... Parur, Travancore ...	...	...
1934 Feb.	... Polhena, Matara, Ceylon.	...	...
1934 May	... Colaba, Bombay ...	52 ft.	Rorqual.
1935	... Anjuna, Goa ...	...	Rorqual.
1935 March.	... Vadanapalli (Malabar) ...	50 ft.	...
1937	... near Danushkodi ...	...	...
1937 Feb.	... Pullam, Travancore ...	45 ft.	Rorqual skeleton in Trivandrum Museum.
1939	... Between Suratkal and Moolki ...	80 ft.	Skeleton in K. High School, Mangalore.
1939 Oct.	... near Cape Comorin ...	50 ft.	...
1939 March.	... Mulvel (Okhamandal) ...	79 ft.	(J.B.N.H.S. Vol. XLI, No. 4, pp. 895-197).
1939 March.	... Anjuna, Goa...	50 ft.	...
1941 ?	... Broach ...	...	...
1942 Feb.	... Anjengo ...	...	...
1942 Jan.	... Vadgamnear Sabarmathi.	67 ft.	(Prakrith 1942, Vol. I, No. 2, pp. 102-115.) (Indian Science Congress, 1947, Zoology and Entomology Abstracts, p. 14),
1943 March.	... Aramda (Okhamandal)...	23 ft.	...
1944 Nov.	... Gajanaara, Baroda ...	71 ft.	...
1945 Nov.	... Moboro, Carmona, Goa...	56 ft.	...
1947 Jan.	... Naduvattam, Calicut ...	45 ft.	...
1947 March.	... Chinnaganjam, Guntur...	72 ft.	...
1947 May	... Ernakulam ...	40 ft.	...

BARODA,  
9th June 1947.

S. T. MOSES,  
Director of Fisheries.

[Pillay's record of a whale '160 feet' long mentioned in the above list is open to grave doubts! The dimensions of the Great

Indian Fin Whale (*B. indica*) is given as 80-90 feet. For further records, vide *Journal, B.N.H.S.*, Vol. XXIII, pp. 576-7.—EDS.]

## 11.—NOTES ON SOME BURMESE MAMMALS

(*With a photo*)

The following jottings regarding some of the mammals of Burma may be of interest. Much in the notes concerns living specimens in the Rangoon Zoological Gardens.

Pocock (Fauna of Brit. India, Mammalia, Vol. II, pages 162 and 3), mentions that the litter of the Red Dog (*Cuon*) may be as many as seven; Col. Burton, (*J.B.N.H.S.*, Vol. XLI, p. 697) gives up to seven or ten, and cites nine embryos taken from a dead female. There is at present in the Rangoon Zoo a pair of these dogs (*Cuon alpinus* ssp.) which breed regularly once a year. The young are born in about December or January. The litter born in January 1946 numbered nine, and this year there were seven whelps. I am told that none of these puppies are ever reared, the bitch either killing or neglecting them. I am not sure whether the bitch comes on heat about the middle of the year or not, though I have an idea she does, but if so it seems that she does not breed then. I don't know if the litters are always as large as the above, as I have not been in Rangoon when she has had any others.

I persuaded the then Superintendent to let me have the last remaining pup of the 1946 litter on the grounds that it would die any way if left with the bitch. This was a female and the eyes were open. She was about a fortnight old. The eyes were blue and the colour, as usual dark. She reminded me much of a fox cub (*Vulpes vulpes*) of similar age, but her smell was not really like either dog or fox. The nearest description I can think of was she smelt like an English domestic ferret. She would not take milk from a glass dropper, but would lick it from my hand, and soon learned to lap. After only a few days she was fed on beef, and ate a surprising amount for such a tiny creature, and seemed to be thriving on it. I could unfortunately keep her only a fortnight and then I returned her to the Zoo. She died soon afterwards, death being attributed to a change from beef to horse-flesh. She was unfortunately completely blind. When she died, at the age of about two months her ears were fully erect and the coat losing the dark colour, and assuming the characteristic red tinge. I should like to have been able to keep her and bring her up to maturity.

Her voice was similar to a domestic puppy's of like age, but the only noise I have ever heard the parents make is a kind of cackling chatter, though I once heard the Indian Wolf in the Gardens (*Canis lupus pallipes*) give a bark not unlike that of a domestic dog.

A young female Leopard Cat (*Prionailurus bengalensis*) which I acquired at Hopin in North Burma had been kept on a long string, dirty and fed only on milk, though past the milk stage. Being therefore very hungry, it was only a matter of hours before she overcame her timidity and would take meat from my fingers. After taking the rope off her neck, and transferring her to a small traveling cage I always fed her by hand. Once I had given her water to